

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9 and 11-20 are pending in the application. In its Decision on Appeal mailed April 25, 2007, the Board reversed the prior art rejections of all claims and stated a new ground of rejection, rejecting claims 19 and 20 under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112. Claims 19 and 20 have been amended to address this rejection.

Claim 19 originally recited a communications network comprising a host and a router, with the host including a device as recited in claim 1. In reversing the rejections of the other claims, the Board relied on the recitation in claim 1 that the generated compound destination address consist of compressed final destination addresses. The Board then noted that dependent claim 20 recited this feature of the invention, and that the doctrine of claim differentiation implied that claim 19 did not require this, thereby rendering claim 19 indefinite. However, claim 19 explicitly recited the host as including a device as recited in claim 1, and that would include all of the features of the device in claim 1, including the compound address consisting of compressed final destination addresses. If the only additional feature recited in claim 20 were that the compound address consists of compressed final destination addresses, the reasoning of the Board might support a rejection for indefiniteness, but this is not the case.

It is noted that claim 19 recites the host as including a device for compressing a list of final destination addresses. Claim 20 talks about what is included in the *router*, not the host. Thus, claim 19 requires that the host include a device for generating a compound address consisting of compressed final destination addresses, and claim 20 further requires that the router include a compression device which generates a compound address consisting of compressed

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APPL. NO.: 09/422,347

final destination addresses. Thus, there is no implication that the device recited in claim 19 does not require the features recited in claim 1.

In view of the above, it is believed that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and a Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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